FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
5
A 66640533 A
ROCHESTER, N.Y.
SERIES
1990
Audre Lorde

Audrey Lourde

Audrey Lourde was born in Harlem in 1934 to Grenadian immigrant parents. She frequently introduces herself as a Black Lesbian Feminist Warrior Poet Mother - - ! Anyone familiar with her poetry and prose can attest to the unmistakable Afro-centric presence in her work as strength and resource. Equally consistent is her involvement with themes of racism, sexism, heterosexism, the need for love and commitment in our lives, interconnectedness, difference as a creative force, the beauty and love of women, the pain and compassion of Black mothers, the struggle in South Africa and the constant articulation and use of identity.

Although she is best known as poet, she educates, teaches, organizes and politicizes with her extra-ordinary poetry readings. Audrey Lourde's book, *From a Land Where Other People Live*, was nominated for a National book award. Among her other books of poetry are *Coal, The Black Unicorn,* and most recently, *Our Dead Behind Us.* Further writings include *The Cancer Journals, Zami: A New Spelling of My Name* and *Sister Outsider.*

In addition to the inherrent challenges that come with being Black, female and lesbian in Western culture, Lorde has had to deal with an ongoing paradox of acceptance and resistance to cancer.

Audrey Lourde has been called an "indispensible poet" by Adrienne Rich, "for the complexity of her vision, for her moral courage and the catalytic passion of her language."

◊ excerpts from Gloria I. Joseph